

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
Nicholas Mark Alford et al. :
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned :
Filed: Concurrently herewith :
For: MAGNETIC SEPARATORS :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to substantive examination, please make the following amendments to the application:

In the Specification

Please amend the first page of the specification to include the following priority claim:

— This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Ser. No. 60/407,922, filed September 3, 2002. —

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 7, 8, 10, 11, and 14 without prejudice and add the following new